

44949
Public Health
County Borough of West Bromwich



Annual Report

ON THE

Health of

West Bromwich

FOR

1949

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CONSTITUTION OF COMMITTEES

at 31st December 1949.

HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman : Alderman J. T. H. DAVIES, J.P.

Deputy Chairman : Alderman A. GREEN.

HER WORSHIP THE MAYOR (Councillor Mrs. G. WILKES, J.P.)

Alderman Mrs. A. E. CALDWELL	Councillor J. MADDOX
Alderman Mrs. E. M. CARPENTER	Councillor Mrs. R. PARFITT
Alderman G. E. POWELL	Councillor S. PARRY
Alderman Mrs. E. A. SMALLMAN, J.P.	Councillor Mrs. V. M. STEED
Councillor Mrs. M. EVITTS	Councillor Mrs. N. SUTTON
Councillor Miss C. E. HAZEL, O.B.E., J.P.	

Co-opted Members

DR. J. M. MITCHELL
DR. D. SAKLATVALA
MR. L. H. TIMMINS

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SUB-COMMITTEE

Chairman : Alderman Mrs. E. A. SMALLMAN, J.P.

Deputy Chairman : Alderman Mrs. A. E. CALDWELL

HER WORSHIP THE MAYOR (Councillor Mrs. G. WILKES, J.P.)

Alderman Mrs. E. M. CARPENTER	Councillor Mrs. R. PARFITT
Alderman J. T. H. DAVIES, J.P.	Councillor Mrs. V. M. STEED
Councillor Mrs. M. EVITTS	Councillor Mrs. N. SUTTON
Councillor Miss C. E. HAZEL, O.B.E., J.P.	DR. D. SAKLATVALA

MENTAL HEALTH SUB-COMMITTEE

Chairman : Councillor Miss C. E. HAZEL, O.B.E., J.P.

Deputy Chairman : THE MAYOR (Councillor Mrs. G. WILKES, J.P.)

Alderman Mrs. E. M. CARPENTER	Councillor J. MADDOX
Alderman J. T. H. DAVIES, J.P.	Councillor Mrs. N. SUTTON
Alderman Mrs. E. A. SMALLMAN, J.P.	DR. J. M. MITCHELL
Councillor Mrs. M. EVITTS	

HYGIENE AND CLEANSING COMMITTEE

Chairman : Alderman J. T. H. DAVIES, J.P.

Deputy Chairman : Alderman A. GREEN

THE MAYOR (Councillor Mrs. G. WILKES, J.P.)

Alderman Mrs. A. E. CALDWELL	Councillor R. BAILEY
Alderman Mrs. E. M. CARPENTER	Councillor Miss C. E. HAZEL,
Alderman Mrs. E. A. SMALLMAN, J.P.	O.B.E., J.P.
	Councillor Mrs. V. M. STEED

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health and Chief Tuberculosis Officer	.. ..	J. TUDOR LEWIS, M.D., D.P.H.
Senior Assistant Medical Officer of Health and Clinical Tuberculosis Officer	.. ..	CLIFFORD W. D. COLE, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
Assistant Medical Officer of Health		W. J. MORRISSEY, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.
Senior Dental Officer	.. ..	G. J. S. LITTLEFIELD, L.D.S.
Chief Sanitary Inspector, Inspector of Food and Drugs, Superintendent of Refuse Removal and Disposal		W. W. FOAKES, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., Cert. Meat Inspector, M.Inst. P.C.
Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector	..	G. H. SHAW, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., Cert. Meat Inspector.
District Sanitary Inspectors	..	F. A. OAKES, Cert. S.I.B., M.S.I.A., Cert. Meat Inspector. F. W. BALL, Cert. S.I.B., M.S.I.A., Cert. Meat Inspector, Cert. Smoke Inspector. C. N. JOHNSON, Cert. S.I.B., M.S.I.A. A. W. REEVES, Cert. S.I.B., M.S.I.A.
Superintendent Health Visitor	..	MISS K. PERRYER, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert., Q.N. Cert.
Health Visitors School Nurses		
		MISS M. E. BLAKEY, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.
		MISS G. S. GEDRYCH, S.R.N., S.C.M., S.R.F.N.
		MISS M. E. GREASLEY, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.
		MISS J. HIRD, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert. (to 31.8.49)
		MISS I. JOHN, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert., Q.N. Cert.
		MISS M. E. JONES, S.R.N., S.C.M.
		MISS E. KING, S.R.N., S.C.M., R.M.P.A. Cert., H.V. Cert.
		MRS. C. PASKIN, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.
		MISS E. RAWSON, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert. (from 1.9.49)
Pupil Health Visitors	.. ..	MISS E. RAWSON, S.R.N., S.C.M. to 30.8.49) MISS D. I. PEREGRINE (from 1.9.49) MISS F. REED (from 1.9.49)

Tuberculosis Visitor and Dispensary

Sister ' .. Miss G. L. SHORE, S.R.N., S.C.M., T.A.
Cert. (to 6.10.49)

Municipal Midwives Mrs. J. BILLINGHAM, S.R.N., S.C.M.
Mrs. A. DORAM, S.C.M.
Miss F. FORGHAM, S.R.N., S.C.M.
Miss D. E. HICKMAN, S.R.N., S.C.M.
(from 9.5.49)
Mrs. F. KEYS, S.C.M.
Mrs. C. LESTER, S.R.N., S.C.M.
Miss E. NUNN, S.R.N., S.C.M.
Mrs. J. PICKSTONE, S.C.M.
Miss M. PIERCY, S.C.M.

Mental Deficiency Supervisor .. Miss E. K. HUNTER

Duly Authorised Officer C. F. WHITEMAN

Superintendent, Akrill Nursing

Association Miss M. KEY, S.R.N., S.C.M.

Matron, Highfields Day Nursery .. Mrs. E. HEAVEN, S.R.N., S.C.M., D.N.

Chief Clerk A. SHAW

*To Her Worship the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the
County Borough of West Bromwich.*

YOUR WORSHIP, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit to you the Annual Report on the health of West Bromwich for the year 1949.

It was not a particularly outstanding year so far as vital statistics were concerned. I should, however, draw your attention to the fact that for the first time, so far as the records go, no mother died as a result of child birth. As against this there was very little improvement in the infant mortality rate which continues to be relatively high and is substantially above that for the rest of the country and the great towns. The death rate was about one point higher than in 1948 although lower than the national rate. There was an increase in the number of notifications of infectious disease mainly due to an excess of measles cases, but West Bromwich remained comparatively free from infantile paralysis which showed a considerable increase in the country as a whole. Only two cases were notified during the year and there were no deaths. Unfortunately, there were two deaths from diphtheria in unimmunised children although only seven cases in all were notified. Whooping cough caused six deaths out of the two hundred and twenty-five cases notified and in West Bromwich is now the most serious infectious disease. It is hoped that the new drugs which have been developed and which are reported to have a most beneficial effect in whooping cough will soon be made available for general use. Tuberculosis has shown an upward trend, a tendency which it is understood is being experienced in the rest of the country, and some remarks on this subject will be found in the body of the report.

During the year much attention was again paid in conjunction with the Chief Sanitary Inspector to environmental conditions, particularly the problem of individual unfit houses, and the Hygiene and Cleansing Committee have been very active in making Demolition Orders on many of these properties. Detailed figures will be found in the report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

Members of the Council will find in the body of the report short references to all of the various aspects of the work of the Health Department, to the West Bromwich Corporation Act, 1949, which incorporates some new powers relating to health and hygiene, and to the new milk legislation which came into operation during the year.

1949 was the first year which afforded a complete year's working under the National Health Service Act, 1946. This Act and the services which have arisen as a result of it, have, as is

inevitable, been the subject of a good deal of criticism. Some critics have pointed out that although labelled a " Health " Act it does in fact make little essential contribution to health, but rather concentrates on hospital care and the cure of disease rather than on its prevention. Others allege that the Act by dividing local medical and health functions into three compartments under three statutory bodies has created barriers between those engaged in the three sections, namely, the public health services, the general practitioner services and the hospital services. Still others point to the duplication and even triplication of functions and quote the example of infectious disease, including tuberculosis, where the responsibility for prevention remains with the local Health Committee but for treatment with the Regional Hospital Board. Midwifery is also freely cited as an example of a service which should be under the supervision of one authority but which at the present time is divided between three major parts of the health services, namely, the Health Department, the general practitioners and the hospitals.

It would be idle to deny that there is not some substance in all of these criticisms and no doubt those who give voice to them are influenced by their own experience as obtained in the particular areas where they may happen to be working. It is, therefore, useful to ask oneself to what extent these criticisms apply to this particular area. It would be untrue to say that we have not experienced minor difficulties for these were to be expected during the inauguration of so far reaching changes, but so far as I am aware they have never assumed a major character and have responded to common sense adjustment. I am able to say that so far as my knowledge and experience goes locally, the services are working reasonably well. I have tried to think of the reason why this is so and in my opinion there are two main reasons for this satisfactory state of affairs.

The first is the fact that in West Bromwich there is an extensive sharing of members on the different bodies concerned with the health services. That is to say, many members of the Health Committee are also members of both the Hospital Management Committee and the Executive Council ; the local medical practitioners are well represented on the Health Committee ; the Medical Officer of Health is represented on the Local Medical Committee and is a member of the Hospital Management Committee ; there is indeed a wholesale mixture and overlapping of committee members. More important even than this is the fact that many of the key positions, such as Chairmanships, are also jointly held. For instance, the Chairman of the Health Committee, Alderman J. T. H. Davies, is also Vice-Chairman of the Hospital Management Committee and Chairman of the Finance Committee of the Executive Council. The Vice-Chairman of the Health Committee, Alderman A. Green, is also Chairman of the Executive Council and Chairman of the Engineering Committee of the Hospital Management Committee. Councillor B. Parry, a member of the Health Committee and of the Hospital Management

Committee, is Vice-Chairman of the Executive Council and Chairman of its General Medical Services Committee. The Medical Officer of Health is a member of the Hospital Management Committee and Chairman of its Medical Advisory Committee and also a member of the Local Medical Committee. It will be seen that with such an inter-mixing of members hardly any decision of a major character which may have to be taken by any one of the local bodies constituted by the Act can be, or is, discussed and decided in isolation. That is to say, most of the members of any committee, and particularly the chairman of the committee, are fully aware of the policy and decisions of the other bodies and this knowledge is brought to bear on the subject under discussion. This integration at committee level extends to officer grades and ensures that there is a very close liaison throughout the three services.

The second factor which seems to have contributed considerably to the services in this area has been the determination of all those with any responsibility for the services that they should be made a success. This view has been expressed at meetings of all the committees and it would seem that it has been put into practice. I, myself, think that this judicious intermingling and sharing of committee members amongst the three locally constituted bodies, together with a large measure of goodwill, has been a potent factor in ensuring the relative lack of difficulty in this area.

I again thank all the members of my staff for their help and co-operation throughout the year, and also my colleagues in the other Corporation Departments for their assistance and advice on many matters. The Chairman and members of the Health Committee and the Hygiene and Cleansing Committee, and also all the other Committees with which on occasions I am concerned, have, as always, been very helpful and have given me every possible assistance. I should like again to thank them for their continued support and kindness.

I have the honour to be,

Madam Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. TUDOR LEWIS,

Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS

POPULATION (Registrar General's Estimate mid-1949)	86,770
AREA (Acres)	7,172
NO. OF INHABITED HOUSES (according to rate books — 31st December, 1949)	21,886
RATEABLE VALUE (at 31st December, 1949)	£432,683
PRODUCE OF 1d. RATE (at 31st December, 1949) ..	£1,728
GENERAL RATE (1949-50)	18s.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate ..	830	787	1,617
Illegitimate ..	33	39	72
Total ..	863	826	1,689

Birth Rate per 1,000 population = 19·5.

Still Births

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate ..	27	15	42
Illegitimate ..	—	2	2
Total ..	27	17	44

Rate per 1,000 population = 0·51.

Rate per 1,000 live and still-births = 25·4.

Deaths	1,008	Death Rate ..	11·6
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Number of women dying in, or in consequence of, childbirth	Nil
Rate per 1,000 live and still-births	Nil

Deaths of Infants under one year of age

All Infants	83	Rate per 1,000 live births ..	49
Legitimate	79	Rate per 1,000 legitimate live births	49
Illegitimate	4	Rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births	56

Population

The population figure as supplied by the Registrar General for West Bromwich was 86,770, being a further slight increase over the figure of 85,880 for the previous year.

Births

The number of live births in West Bromwich in 1949 was 1,689, the corresponding figure for the previous year being 1,685. This gives a birth rate for 1949 of 19·5 per 1,000 population, which compares with 16·7 for England and Wales and 18·7 for the great towns.

Deaths

The total number of deaths in 1949 was 1,008 compared with 849 in 1948. This gives a death rate of 11·6 for 1949, compared with 9·89 for 1948. The corresponding figures for England and Wales and for the great towns were 11·7 and 12·5 respectively, from which it will be seen that the death rate in West Bromwich is below that in England and Wales and for the combined great towns.

Principal Causes of Death

One hundred and ninety-eight people died from heart disease in 1949, compared with 184 in the previous year. Last year there was a slight drop in the number of deaths from cancer but in 1949 this improvement was lost and there were 151 deaths from this disease. Deaths from respiratory diseases, that is to say, pneumonia, bronchitis and kindred diseases, were a little up on the previous year although they caused fewer deaths than in 1947. Pulmonary tuberculosis caused 66 deaths compared with 63 in 1948. It is very satisfactory to note that no death occurred as a result of child birth. This is the first time, so far as our records go, that it has been possible to be able to report that no death occurred in a mother as a result of child birth.

DEATHS DURING THE LAST 10 YEARS

Principal Causes of Death

	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	Yearly Aver- age
Cancer	110	112	121	124	132	173	138	145	127	151	133·3
Heart Diseases ..	167	168	170	148	138	143	161	208	184	198	168·5
Pneumonia ..	84	74	48	85	56	39	40	66	41	49	58·2
Bronchitis and other Respiratory Diseases	113	108	54	74	88	95	90	115	81	113	93·1
Intra-cranial vascular lesions	81	81	91	79	77	105	99	98	73	112	89·6
Tuberculosis :											
Pulmonary ..	75	75	65	64	54	54	57	59	63	66	63·2
Non-Pulmonary	12	7	11	7	11	8	9	10	10	10	9·5

Age at Death

The proportion of deaths which occurred in persons 65 years of age and over was 52·78% compared with 45·82% in 1948.

Deaths from Violent Causes

During the year there were 48 deaths from violent causes, 10 from suicide, 13 as a result of road accidents and 25 others.

Infant Mortality

In 1949 in West Bromwich, 83 infants under the age of one year lost their lives. This gave a rate of 49 per 1,000 live births, compared with 53 in 1948. The corresponding rates for England and Wales and the great towns were 32 and 37 respectively. This rate still compared unfavourably with that for the country as a whole.

INFANT DEATHS IN AGE GROUPS FOR 10 YEARS

1940 — 1949

<i>Year</i>	<i>Under 1 month</i>	<i>1—3 months</i>	<i>3—6 months</i>	<i>6—9 months</i>	<i>9—12 months</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Infant Death Rate</i>
1940	45	26	16	5	10	102	70
1941	43	14	28	6	2	93	68
1942	37	12	11	8	4	72	46
1943	38	15	24	8	7	92	55
1944	60	20	29	4	4	117	67
1945	34	13	20	8	5	80	52
1946	38	15	17	10	6	86	50
1947	37	17	20	16	6	96	55
1948	38	18	23	8	2	89	53
1949	31	19	24	6	3	83	49
<i>10 years' average</i>	40	17	21	8	5	91	—

INFANT DEATHS, 1949 — CAUSES OF DEATH

(Local Registration)

	<i>Under 1 month</i>	<i>1—3 months</i>	<i>3—6 months</i>	<i>6—9 months</i>	<i>9—12 months</i>	<i>Total Under 1 Year</i>
Congenital Malformations, Birth Injuries and Infantile Diseases ..	14	5	3	1	—	23
Diarrhoea	—	5	9	2	1	17
Premature Births ..	14	—	—	—	—	14
Pneumonia	2	2	6	—	1	11
Whooping Cough ..	—	1	3	—	1	5
Influenza	—	1	—	2	—	3
Other Digestive Diseases	—	1	1	—	—	2
Violence	1	1	—	—	—	2
Tuberculosis (other forms)	—	—	1	1	—	2
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	—	1	—	—	—	1
Bronchitis	—	1	—	—	—	1
Other Causes	—	1	1	—	—	2
Totals	31	19	24	6	3	83

Of these children, 79 were legitimate and 4 illegitimate.

NEO-NATAL DEATHS IN 1949

<i>WHEN DEATH OCCURRED</i>										<i>Total Deaths</i>
<i>1st day</i>	<i>2nd day</i>	<i>3rd day</i>	<i>4th day</i>	<i>5th day</i>	<i>6th day</i>	<i>7th day</i>	<i>1—2 wks.</i>	<i>2—3 wks.</i>	<i>3—4 wks.</i>	<i>under 1 month</i>
19	3	1	1	1	—	—	2	3	1	31

Of these children, 28 were legitimate and 3 illegitimate.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Infectious Diseases

The total number of infectious disease cases notified in 1949 was 1,147. This was nearly 400 more than in the previous year, the increase being accounted for by the large number of cases of measles which were notified in the early part of the year. Although this was a widespread epidemic it was not a very virulent one in so far as mortality was concerned, for no deaths from measles took place. Another lesser cause in the increase in notifications was the slightly increased incidence of whooping cough which accounted for nearly 20 of the extra cases. Amongst the 225 cases of whooping cough notified, there were six deaths. Two diphtheria deaths took place, both of them in non-immunised children. The country, as a whole, experienced a substantial increase in the incidence of poliomyelitis, but West Bromwich fortunately remained comparatively free for only 2 cases were reported. There were no deaths from this disease.

(a) Infectious Disease — Incidence

	1948	1949
Measles	388	805
Whooping Cough	206	225
Scarlet Fever	131	94
Erysipelas	13	6
Diphtheria	11	7
Cerebro-spinal Fever ..	1	3
Poliomyelitis	1	2
Chicken Pox	1	5
Totals	<hr/> 752 <hr/>	<hr/> 1,147 <hr/>

(b) Deaths from Infectious Diseases (R.G. Figures)

	1948	1949
Tuberculosis—Pulmonary ..	63	66
Non-Pulmonary ..	10	10
Whooping Cough	2	6
Diphtheria	1	2
Acute Infectious Encephalitis	1	2
Cerebro-spinal Fever ..	1	—
Poliomyelitis	1	—
Totals	<hr/> 79 <hr/>	<hr/> 86 <hr/>

(c) Deaths from Respiratory Diseases (R.G. Figures)

	1948	1949
Bronchitis	64	94
Pneumonia	41	49
Other Respiratory Diseases	17	19
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals	122	162
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Immunisation against Diphtheria

Vaccination against Smallpox

Below are given the numbers of children immunised against diphtheria and vaccinated against smallpox. These represent all age groups and those in which treatment was given by doctors in the public health department and also by general practitioners.

Immunisation against Diphtheria

Number of children immunised ..	1,364
Number of children receiving re- inforcing injections	652

It is estimated that the proportion of children in West Bromwich immunised against diphtheria is now 71.2%

Vaccination against Smallpox

Number of persons vaccinated ..	297
Number of persons re-vaccinated ..	8

Venereal Diseases

Details of the returns of cases of venereal disease from West Bromwich treated at the General Hospital, Birmingham, and the Guest Hospital, Dudley, are given below.

	Birmingham	Dudley	Total
Syphilis	11	—	11
Gonorrhoea	17	3	20
Conditions other than venereal ..	68	7	75
Total cases	96	10	106

On the face of it, it would appear as if the number of cases under treatment is less than the previous year. It is doubtful, however, if much reliance can be placed on these figures as it is not uncommon for patients attending venereal disease centres to give incorrect addresses.

Tuberculosis

Although at the end of the year eighteen months had elapsed since the Regional Hospital Board had assumed responsibility for the treatment of tuberculosis in the town, the arrangements for treatment remained unchanged. That is to say, Dr. Cole, who is the Senior Assistant Medical Officer, continued to act as Clinical Tuberculosis Officer and shared his duties between the Regional Hospital Board and the Health Committee. This arrangement has not been altogether satisfactory and although enquiries have been made at the Regional Board as to what their intentions are, at the time of writing the position has not been resolved. I am grateful to Dr. Cole for a good deal of the information contained in the following section.

Tuberculosis has shown an upward trend in the past year or two and this tendency is noticed in West Bromwich. There was, for instance, a total of 203 new cases notified for the first time in 1949, compared with 170 in the previous year. It is very difficult to be certain whether this increase in the number of notifications represents an absolute increase in the incidence of the disease or whether it means that more cases are now being diagnosed. There is reason to think that there is a greater appreciation, both among members of the public and also among general practitioners, of the value of early investigation of complaints referable to the chest and this is shown in the increased number of attendances at the chest clinic. Although one cannot be certain about this, on the evidence available one's impression is that the increased figures indicate that more cases are now coming to light and being diagnosed than previously, and this refers particularly to early cases of the disease when with modern methods of treatment there is every hope of a cure. Another factor which has helped to swell the figures is the fact that during the latter part of the year the Mass Miniature Radiography Unit operated in the town. Some 15,000 people, including school children over 11, were X-rayed by this method and a number of cases of chest disease were discovered. Among these were a number of cases in young women and some cases were also found in girls between the ages of 14 and 15.

The death rate from tuberculosis in both the pulmonary and non-pulmonary categories remains virtually unchanged from previous years, which tends to bear out one's impression that the increase in notifications is due to new and early cases being ascertained.

I have referred in previous reports to the complexity of the many factors which govern the spread of tuberculosis and determine its prevention. There is no one factor which can be singled out as being of major importance and no one single measure which might be taken as likely to have any dramatic effect in reducing the incidence of the disease. In other words, the prevention of tuberculosis in this town, as in this country, is likely to be a long

term project and will involve measures which are designed to ascertain early cases, to improve the general environmental conditions of the people, particularly to provide good housing, and to prevent chronic cases who are infectious from mixing freely with young and uninfected people. This latter necessity presupposes the availability of hospital or sanatorium beds where such cases can be properly cared for. This in itself is a tremendous problem which, however, is now no longer the responsibility of the Health Committee. As compared with many areas, in West Bromwich we are fortunate in that Heath Lane Hospital, formerly used for infectious diseases and cases of tuberculosis, is now being utilised exclusively for the tuberculous. Even so there is often a long wait before patients can be admitted.

The Housing Committee and the Housing Department have done all in their power to make available houses for tuberculous patients, thereby making a considerable contribution to the welfare of the patients. There can be no doubt whatsoever that those cases of tuberculosis with the germ of the disease in their sputum, who live in overcrowded, unhygienic and insanitary conditions, are the main source of the spread of the disease and by providing houses for the families so afflicted a great deal can be done to prevent fresh cases arising. Hence the policy of the Housing Committee, which is to do all in its power to re-house the victims of this disease, is an important preventive measure. Forty-nine families were rehoused during the year and all thanks are due to the Housing Committee and the Housing Department for the help they have given when they themselves are beset by such tremendous problems in housing the population in general.

Taking the tuberculosis position as it now exists there would seem to be little room for optimism. Nevertheless, the last few years have seen the introduction of new methods of treatment which hold out every hope for the future. The new drugs, particularly streptomycin, para-aminosalicylic acid (P.A.S.) and the sulphetrones, have been shown to have a tremendous value in the treatment of certain forms of tuberculosis and in some cases the results may be described as dramatic. Taken in conjunction with well tried methods of collapse therapy it is certain that the new drugs offer a new hope for victims of this disease, particularly if the disease is diagnosed at an early stage.

The after-care of tuberculous patients is the responsibility of the local Health Committee. Although a good deal has been achieved during the year, particularly through the activities of the Voluntary Care Committee, we have been seriously handicapped by the lack of staff. The Tuberculosis Visitor resigned in September, 1949, and it has not been possible to appoint a successor although every effort has been made to obtain a suitable person. The result has been that the visiting of tuberculous patients has devolved upon the health visitors who are already very heavily committed with their other activities. It is unfortunately the case that the visiting of tuberculous cases for some time past has left

a good deal to be desired and with the extremely acute staffing difficulties with which we are faced it is not possible to make any more satisfactory arrangements.

It is also the policy of the Health Committee to appoint a social worker who would be made responsible for after-care work, particularly amongst the tuberculous, and would co-ordinate the various agencies who are concerned with the after-care and rehabilitation of tuberculous patients. Unfortunately again, although many efforts have been made to appoint a suitably trained person, these efforts have been unsuccessful. It is desired to express appreciation for the help which has been obtained from the Voluntary Care Committee, the Galatea Fund, the Women's Voluntary Services and the Soroptimists Club, all of whom in varying degrees have given assistance by way of after-care to tuberculous cases. The staff of the National Assistance Board Area Office at Smethwick have also been very helpful and, as in the past, have continued to take a very understanding and broad-minded view of the needs of the tuberculosis patients, so that it has been possible, to a large extent, to allay the financial worries with which tuberculous patients are inevitably surrounded.

Reference was made above to the visit of the Mass Radiography Unit to West Bromwich. Although this visit was extensively advertised in the local press and otherwise, the response at first was somewhat disappointing. The Unit visited a number of large industrial firms in the town and then, through the courtesy of the Civil Defence Committee, was set up in the Civil Defence Headquarters in Pitt Street, where it remained for some weeks carrying out a survey of the general public. Towards the end of this period the advertising campaign was given a fillip by the help of the then Mayor (Councillor Mrs. G. Wilkes, J.P.) who used her influence and position to persuade the public to come forward. The response was most gratifying. As a result of the survey some 136 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were discovered. These were in various stages, a large number being early cases in which the prospects of cure by observation and treatment were excellent. Amongst this number were eight school girls, but only one school boy was found to be suffering from the disease. Suitable arrangements were made in all cases for observation and treatment.

In addition to the cases noted above, twenty cases of industrial dust disease were discovered. These cases were discovered from an X-ray survey of less than one-fifth of the total population of the town, which gives some idea of the extent of undiagnosed and unsuspected tuberculosis. It is hoped that in the not too distant future it will be possible to arrange for the Mass Radiography Unit to return to the town and carry out another survey.

Rate of Incidence of Tuberculosis (Primary Notifications)

Year	Pulm.	Non-Pulm.	Total	Rate per Thousand		
				Pulm.	Non-Pulm.	Total
1940	122	26	148	—	—	—
1941	118	18	136	1.3	0.15	1.45
1942	139	14	153	1.77	0.18	1.95
1943	156	18	174	1.99	0.23	2.22
1944	160	11	171	2.04	0.14	2.18
1945	154	13	167	1.91	0.16	2.07
1946	150	11	161	1.81	0.13	1.94
1947	111	9	120	1.32	0.11	1.43
1948	149	21	170	1.73	0.24	1.97
1949	190	13	203	2.19	0.15	2.34

Comparative Table of Deaths and Death Rate

Year	Pulm.	Non-Pulm.	Total	Rate per Thousand		
				Pulm.	Non-Pulm.	Total
1941	75	7	82	0.95	0.09	1.04
1942	65	11	76	0.81	0.14	0.95
1943	64	7	71	0.80	0.09	0.89
1944	54	11	65	0.69	0.14	0.83
1945	54	8	62	0.68	0.10	0.78
1946	57	9	66	0.69	0.11	0.80
1947	59	10	69	0.70	0.12	0.82
1948	63	10	73	0.73	0.12	0.85
1949	66	10	76	0.76	0.12	0.88

Work of the Chest Clinic.

The number of cases on the Chest Clinic and Notification Registers during the past 10 years are given in the following table :

Year	New Cases	No. on Notif'n Register	No. on Chest Clinic Register	No. of Exams.	No. of Consultations	Total	Home visits by Nurses
1940	148	427	—	—	—	—	—
1941	114	444	306	783	928	1,711	862
1942	153	510	376	1,039	1,084	2,123	932
1943	174	517	461	1,233	1,710	2,943	862
1944	171	597	530	1,271	2,312	3,583	1,017
1945	167	655	697	1,590	2,433	4,023	1,657
1946	161	705	856	1,785	2,842	4,627	2,008
1947	120	716	838	1,669	2,270	3,939	2,053
1948	171	618	970	1,847	1,901	3,748	2,647
1949	203	860	1,234	3,323	2,245	5,568	2,118

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

General

The general services for maternity and child welfare remain much as described in last year's report. The difficulty in recruiting health visitors has been a considerable handicap and although the Committee have agreed to a substantial increase in the establishment of health visitors and school nurses we have unfortunately been unable to implement the Committee's decision owing to lack of candidates for these positions. One cannot help feeling that if this shortage, which one understands is not confined to this area, continues, then the situation might become serious. In spite of their depleted numbers the health visiting staff have worked extremely well and continue to make a very important contribution to the health and welfare of the people in West Bromwich.

While we cannot report, unfortunately, any marked improvement in the infant mortality rate of the town, it is very satisfactory to be able to say that during 1949 no mother died as a result of childbirth. So far as our records go, this is the first year that this has been achieved. The infant mortality rate remains considerably above that for the country as a whole. One of its unusual features is that over the last ten years or so there has been comparatively little improvement in the rate. It is interesting to speculate why in a town like West Bromwich this rate has resisted reduction whereas in many other towns similar in size although not necessarily of comparable environmental conditions, the rate has been materially reduced. At the time of writing, however, it does seem that at least some measure of reduction in the infant deaths in this town is being attained.

Care of Mothers and Young Children

The Infant Welfare Clinics were again well attended although for the latter part of the year the Hamstead Clinic functioned with difficulty after having to vacate its old premises.

We were fortunate, however, in being able to obtain temporary premises in the Red House Park and although a little inconveniently situated for some of the mothers, attendances have been surprisingly good. During the year we pressed on vigorously with the arrangements for establishing a new clinic on the Tanhouse Estate and at the time of writing it is pleasing to be able to report that this is now almost completed and, it is hoped, will shortly be in use. This clinic, the planning of which was very carefully thought out, will undoubtedly prove to be of considerable benefit to the residents on the new estate and should also be a welcome addition to the amenities of Hamstead.

The attendances at the ante-natal clinics fell slightly, due it is thought, to mothers attending their own doctors under the National Health Service arrangements. Recent figures show that this tendency has now stopped and that attendances are reverting to their normal level.

During the year discussions were held with all the persons and agencies concerned in midwifery and obstetrics in the area and further reference is made to this in the midwifery section.

Premature Babies

Arrangements for the care of premature babies continued as in previous years and an example of the excellent work carried out was the successful nursing of premature twins weighing 2-lbs. and 2½-lbs. at birth and which were entirely nursed at home. The parents in this case were very co-operative and it was largely due to their willingness to carry out advice that these babies were successfully reared.

During the year 82 premature births were notified, 36 being born at home and 46 in hospitals and nursing homes. Of those born at home, one died during the first 24 hours and 32 were surviving at the end of a month. Of the hospital and nursing home cases, 2 died during the first 24 hours and 40 survived at the end of a month.

Illegitimate Children

Miss Lavender, the Moral Welfare Worker, who again contributed much assistance with these cases, reports as follows on the work carried out during 1949.

At the beginning of the year four mothers and their babies, one mother, and one baby were accommodated in Homes.

In addition, ten expectant mothers were dealt with and of these four entered Diocesan Homes. The babies were placed as follows :

Six remained with their mothers.

One was adopted by a direct placing by the mother.

One was placed in Church of England Children's Home.

One was placed in Dr. Barnardo's Home.

One died.

Six mother and baby cases were followed up and assistance and help was given wherever possible.

Investigations were made to obtain payments from putative fathers, as a result of which one man is now making payments without an order and one " application " case was won.

I should like to express my appreciation and thanks to Miss Lavender for her help and co-operation in dealing with these cases, many of which presented great difficulties and all of which needed much tact and delicate handling. Miss Lavender has been very helpful in all the West Bromwich cases with which she has been called upon to deal.

Adoption of Children — Infant Life Protection

During 1949 discussions took place between the Town Clerk, the Children's Officer, the Director of Education and the Medical Officer of Health with regard to the transfer of duties to the newly established Children's Department and of the means of maintaining liaison and co-ordination between the two departments. As a result of these discussions, all the functions formerly undertaken by the Health Department in regard to children deprived of a normal home life were transferred to the Children's Officer, with the exception of certain duties relating to the adoption of children. The Public Health Department has continued to act as guardian ad litem in the case of adoptions, acting as such in 19 cases.

There were a number of enquiries by prospective adopters and advice was given as to the necessary legal steps to be taken.

The Medical Officer of Health acts as adviser on medical and health matters to the Children's Committee and a close liaison is maintained between the officers of the Children's Committee, the Health Committee, the Education Committee and the Local Inspector of the N.S.P.C.C. In some cases it has been necessary to arrange for the urgent accommodation of young children and at times it has been a matter of no small difficulty to make the necessary arrangements. Through the helpful co-operation of the Matron of the former West Bromwich Isolation Hospital, however, it has been possible in a number of cases to arrange for young children to be accommodated temporarily in the hospital. I should like to express my appreciation to the Matron for the help she has given.

Highfields Day Nursery

During 1949 very special efforts were made to make the best of the premises which, it is generally agreed, are not altogether satisfactory for use as a day nursery. Practically the whole of the premises were redecorated and a large amount of additional playing material was bought, which included a slide and a climbing frame, together with quantities of smaller toys having an educational value. It is now considered that this nursery is very well equipped.

It was hoped during the year to arrange for both the Matron and the Staff Nurse to attend a Matron's Refresher Course, but owing to illness the arrangements had to be postponed. Nor was it possible, as had been hoped, to arrange for some of the other members of the staff to attend a Senior Child Care Reserve Course, but this will be done when the next course is held.

We are still seriously handicapped in the matter of staff, particularly our inability to engage student nurses and as a consequence it has been necessary throughout the year to curtail the number of children admitted so that the numbers do not exceed the proportion of five children to one member of staff.

A visit to this nursery and a look at the happy faces of the children and their unrepressed and joyful activities will leave no room for doubt as to the excellent care and attention which they receive. I think every credit must go to the Matron and her staff for the work they put in, often under great difficulties.

During the year there were no serious outbreaks of infectious disease in the nursery. Appended is a summary of the attendances for the year.

	Under 2 years	2 — 5 years
Total attendances for the year	1,874	6,288
Average attendances per day..	8	25

Nursing Homes

By the end of the year there were only four general nursing homes in the borough and this included one home formerly used for maternity purposes which had been re-registered as a medical and surgical nursing home. As the only other maternity home in the town ceased to function during the year, there are now no maternity homes in West Bromwich.

Routine visits were made throughout the year by the medical and nursing staff of the Health Department and it is pleasing to report that the proprietors co-operated whenever suggestions were made about the administration of the various homes.

Midwifery

During 1949 the municipal midwives attended 701 confinement cases, which was an increase of 64 cases compared with the previous year, and made 12,628 post-natal and 3,168 ante-natal visits. Gas and air was administered in 213 cases.

Two midwives attended a course on gas and air analgesia held at Hallam Hospital and successfully passed the C.M.B. examination. Two midwives also attended a refresher course held at Oxford.

In May a further midwife was appointed, bringing the total to nine.

A very interesting and valuable meeting was convened by Mr. Connell, the obstetrician attached to the local hospitals, to discuss arrangements for the ante-natal supervision of expectant mothers. There were present representatives from the maternity unit at Hallam Hospital and the Matron of the Hospital; representatives of the midwives in West Bromwich and the surrounding areas; health visitors from West Bromwich and the surrounding areas; the Medical Officers of Health for West Bromwich and Oldbury; local doctors and the resident obstetrician at Hallam Hospital.

During the conference a number of matters were touched upon, but in the main discussion centred on the arrangements for providing for the care and ante-natal supervision of expectant mothers. The difficulties which have resulted from the threefold responsibility for midwifery were freely aired and a number of suggestions put forward for overcoming these. On the whole it appeared that while the difficulties were there and well recognised, they were being very adequately overcome in this area through the determination of all to work as closely together as possible. One suggestion put forward, but not adopted, was the provision of midwives' clinics to which mothers who had engaged their own doctors could go for supervision by the midwives. Although this has a good deal to commend it, it has not yet been possible to put it into practice.

Although this conference did not give rise to any immediate practical results it provided a very valuable opportunity for discussing the midwifery problems in the area.

During the year it was possible to devise a little scheme, in conjunction with the local practitioners, to foster liaison between the doctor whom a patient has engaged and the midwife who will attend her in the confinement. A small card was designed which fits under the form which the general practitioner completes when he undertakes to provide maternity services. By using carbon paper only one writing operation is necessary and the card, duly completed, is taken by the patient to the midwife she books. The information on the card tells the midwife whether the doctor wishes her to act as maternity nurse or midwife, and, if the latter, arrangements are made for the doctor to be informed when the baby has been born. By this means the midwife is made fully aware of whether she will be required to act as midwife or merely as maternity nurse and she knows which doctor has been booked for the confinement and can consult him if necessary. It is understood that this simple little scheme has been very useful and is appreciated by both doctors and midwives.

There were no maternal deaths in West Bromwich during 1949 and this is a matter for congratulating all the midwives.

Health Visiting

The total number of visits paid during the year was 27,494 made as follows :

Visits to children under one year of age	..	9,977
Visits to children from one to five years	..	15,633
Visits to expectant mothers	.. ..	269
Special visits (infectious diseases, etc.)	..	1,615

In April one student health visitor successfully completed her training at the Birmingham University and commenced duty with the department in May, bringing the number of health visitors employed to eight and a Superintendent Health Visitor. It is becoming increasingly difficult to recruit health visiting staff and in view of the additional duties being carried out by health visitors this problem is likely to be even more acute in the future. For instance, a good deal of work is now being done in the supervision of old people, particularly those awaiting admission to Hallam Hospital.

Several universities are now holding courses for student health visitors and this would seem to be the only source from which staff may be obtained, but this limited supply is not nearly enough to cope with the demand.

Again efforts were made to give extra supervision to problem families, to babies and children discharged from hospitals and to aged people requiring hospital treatment. These additional visits take up a considerable amount of time as, apart from the actual visit, a special report must be made for each case ; consequently at the moment all the health visitors have too heavy a case load to permit the work being done as efficiently as it might be.

During the year a full report was made to the Health Committee on the shortage of Health visitors in the area. It is estimated that to cover the work in West Bromwich with reasonable adequacy a minimum of 15 health visitors is necessary. The Health Committee accepted this view and would be only too glad to augment the health visiting staff if this were possible. It is unlikely that the relatively high infant mortality rate experienced in this area will be reduced until it is possible to increase the number of health visitors.

Problem Families

In last year's report I spent some little time in discussing the "problem" of the problem family. Reading over what I said last year I find that there is little I wish to add or amend.

This subject is receiving prominence both in the medical and in the lay press, so that there is an awakening in the public mind and an appreciation of the difficulties which are met with in handling these difficult families. So far as West Bromwich is concerned, the health visiting staff and also the sanitary inspectors have given all possible help on the lines outlined in my report of last year. I should like again to thank the health visiting staff for the part they play in saving these families from themselves and especially in safeguarding the health of the children born into such families.

HOME NURSING AND CARE

Home Nursing

The year 1949 was the first complete year in which the Home Nursing Service was administered wholly by the Health Committee and the Health Department. Miss Key, the Superintendent of the Home Nursing Service, has been handicapped by the difficulties of obtaining both nursing and domestic staff, but nevertheless the work has considerably increased over the previous year.

The difficulty in recruiting nursing staff has threatened the whole of the service and it has been necessary to recruit part-time nurses to carry on the work. Fortunately the staff we were able to obtain have performed their duties conscientiously and well.

During the latter part of the year the Committee considered the appointment of a male nurse and eventually obtained the services of a state registered male nurse of considerable previous experience. As this appointment substantially strengthened the staff and was so successful, the Committee shortly afterwards decided to appoint another male nurse. Accordingly an enrolled assistant male nurse was appointed and he has now taken up duties also.

There is no doubt that the Home Nursing Service provides valuable help to patients who are treated at home. This is particularly so at the present time when it is so difficult to obtain admission to hospital, especially for chronic and senile cases, and the work which the Home Nursing Service accomplishes undoubtedly greatly eases the burden which the hospitals and hospital staffs have to carry. Indeed, it would be most unpleasant to contemplate the plight of many patients who really need admission to hospital, but for whom there is no bed available, were it not for the help of the Home Nursing Service.

I am grateful to Miss Key, the Superintendent of the Home Nursing Service, for her help and assistance during the year. The main burden of responsibility for the Home Nursing Services has rested upon her and at times I know it has been a source of considerable anxiety to her.

The following is a classified list of cases visited during 1949.

Cancer	..	..	..	..	..	56
Cardiac	..	..	..	..	..	28
Hemiplegia	..	..	..	..	..	50
Mastitis	..	..	..	..	..	3
Pneumonia and other chest complaints						53
Rheumatism	..	..	..	..	..	16
Tuberculosis	..	..	..	..	..	8
Other surgical Cases	..	..	..	..	..	40
Other medical cases including senility	..	..	..	..	..	199
						<hr/>
Total number of patients visited	..					453
						<hr/>
Number of visits paid	..	..	..	..	..	13,647
						<hr/>

Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care

The arrangements described in last year's report have continued practically unchanged. The Voluntary Care Committee has continued to render considerable help, particularly in cases of tuberculosis, and I should like to thank the members for their continued support. Miss G. M. Clark who succeeded her father, Mr. W. G. Clark, as secretary, resigned her appointment on the occasion of her marriage. For the short time during which Miss Clark acted as secretary she entered whole-heartedly into the work of the Committee and gave every help and assistance to the Health Department. She left the Committee with every good wish for her future happiness. Miss Clark was succeeded as honorary secretary by Mr. K. G. Jones who has already shown that he fully understands the work of the Committee. Mr. A. E. Barker has continued as honorary treasurer and has been very helpful in making funds available to the Health Department for cases needing after-care and assistance.

It has still not been possible to appoint an almoner or social worker and at the moment with the large demand for such officers, it does not appear as if such an appointment will be made in the near future.

Home Help Scheme

The scheme continued to expand slowly during 1949, and at the end of the year 11 home helps were being employed. They attended 72 cases — 34 of which were confinement cases, 18 temporary illnesses and 20 chronic cases.

The Maternity and Child Welfare Sub-Committee on a number of occasions devoted much time to discussing the difficulties of developing the Home Helps Scheme in West Bromwich. As I pointed out last year there seem to be two main causes which account for the relatively little advantage which has been taken of the facilities available. These are the difficulties of recruiting suitable women to act as home helps in an area where there is a good deal of female employment in light industry and secondly, the fact that many householders appear reluctant to take advantage of the Home Helps Scheme. It is becoming noticeable, however, that this prejudice, for this is what it is, is not so marked now as previously and it is to be expected that in time this scheme will make substantial headway. It has already proved of the greatest benefit in cases of senility and chronic illness awaiting admission to hospital. The Committee have now decided that the time has come to appoint a full-time organiser of home helps, although such an appointment has not yet been made.

AMBULANCE SERVICE

The general arrangements which I outlined in my report for last year have continued and I would like again to express my thanks to Mr. Witcomb Smith, the Transport Manager, for his unfailing help and co-operation. During the year a new Morris C.V. type ambulance was delivered and also a new Daimler ambulance. This vehicle was built to our specifications on a 27 h.p. Daimler chassis and it is indeed a very fine vehicle. An order for another standard Daimler ambulance has been placed but the vehicle has not yet been delivered. With these additions we are now in a fairly favourable position as regards ambulances although it must be remembered that some of the vehicles still in use are very old and are only kept on the road by the excellent servicing facilities which are available at the Transport Depot. So long as spare parts can be procured these ambulances will continue to give very useful service but the length of this service will largely depend on the availability of spares.

During the year a visit was received from the Ministry of Health Inspector and very full and useful discussions were held. The number of ambulance personnel was increased during the year, bringing the total strength up to 12.

The National Health Service (Amendment) Act, 1949, Section 24, made certain alterations as to which local health authorities were responsible for the cost of removing cases from hospitals. In so far as West Bromwich is a local hospital centre it is possible that this amendment will make some slight difference in the volume of work which we are called upon to undertake. Up to the moment it has not become apparent to what extent the work will be affected.

During the year some consideration was given, in consultation with the Transport Manager, to the possible effect of the Road Transport Act, 1947 and the administration of the ambulance service in West Bromwich should the Corporation Transport undertaking be brought under the control of the Transport Commissioners. It might be necessary to make alternative arrangements for the ambulance service and to find other accommodation where arrangements for servicing and repairs could be carried out. No definite decision was arrived at and at the moment there seems to be no immediate urgency. The question is one, however, which must be kept in view in the light of traffic re-organisation in the Midland Area.

Below are appended the details of the work during the year :

Number of patients removed to hospitals :

(a) Within the Borough	1,885
(b) Outside the Borough	132

Number of patients removed from hospitals to other addresses:

(a) Within the Borough	1,180
(b) Outside the Borough	62

Number of out-patients taken for treatment at hospitals :

(a) Within the Borough	2,626
(b) Outside the Borough	674

Number of street and works accidents 553

Calls for gas and air apparatus 311

Other journeys 541

Total Journeys 7,964

Total Mileage 50,893

MENTAL HEALTH

1. Administration

- (a) The Mental Health Sub-Committee, the constitution of which is given on page 1 meets on the second Friday in the month with the exception of August. To this sub-committee has been delegated by the Health Committee all executive functions in regard to the Mental Health Services with the exception of the power to spend money and the making of appointments.
- (b) The Mental Health Sub-Committee employs a full-time mental deficiency visitor, who, although not holding any academic qualifications, has had extensive practical experience of this work. Unfortunately this member of the staff is now reaching retiring age and the question of her successor has been under review. Advertisements in the professional papers have so far been unsuccessful in attracting applications from suitable candidates. The mental deficiency visitor, therefore, has continued in her duties and will do so until such time as the Committee are able to appoint a suitably qualified and experienced person to succeed her.

The Committee also employs a duly authorised officer who gives part of his time to these duties. Arrangements are in being for this officer's work to be performed by a deputy when he is on leave or otherwise not available.

- (c) Co-ordination with Hospital Management Committees.

There is no joint use of officers but mental defectives on licence from mental deficiency institutions are supervised on behalf of the Hospital Management Committees by the Health Committee's mental deficiency visitor.

During the year an interesting scheme was introduced by which close liaison was achieved and maintained between the Health Committee's activities and those of the local Hospital Management Committee for the West Bromwich area. It was possible to engage staff from the Birmingham Branch of the National Association for Mental Health who were made available in a joint capacity for after-care work in connection with patients discharged from mental hospitals, the responsibility for which rests with the local Health Committee and the work of the two psychiatric departments at the Hallam Hospital and the West Bromwich and District General Hospital. This arrangement has worked extremely well, and has enabled a very close liaison to be maintained between the local Health Committee and the local Hospital

Management Committee. It is very regrettable that at the time of writing, owing to circumstances over which we have had no control, this most satisfactory and desirable arrangement will soon come to an end.

- (d) As stated in the above paragraph, the Birmingham Branch of the National Association for Mental Health made available its psychiatric social workers to undertake after-care work for patients discharged from mental hospitals. There is no strict delegation of the work as the psychiatric social worker maintains very close contact with the Medical Officer of Health and other officers of the department. Payment is made to the Association by the Health Authority for the work done.
- (e) No arrangements have been made for the training of mental health visitors up to the present.

2. Work undertaken in the community

The work outlined in paragraphs (c) and (d) above may be considered as coming under Section 28 of the National Health Service Act, 1946. The procedure is as follows. On receipt of a discharge notice from the mental hospital, a confidential letter is written by the Medical Officer of Health, both to the patient's private doctor and the patient himself, enquiring whether any help can be rendered by the Health Department. In the absence of any statement that no help is desired, particulars are sent to the psychiatric social worker who then visits regularly and makes a report. Thereafter cases discharged are visited regularly and all steps taken to prevent the patient's relapsing. A report on the work is made to the Mental Health Sub-Committee every two months when details of the action taken and results obtained are given. In these reports the patients are not referred to by name but remain anonymous. Appended herewith is a report on the cases dealt with so far.

Total number of cases referred	..	23	(male 11, female 12)
Age distribution :			
20 — 30 years	..	..	4 cases
30 — 40 years	..	..	5 cases
40 — 50 years	..	..	3 cases
50 — 60 years	..	..	6 cases
60 plus	..	..	5 cases

Closed cases :

Case No.	Reason	Inter-views	Letters	Tele-phone
1	Now working	8	2	—
4	Now working	14	7	3
* 7	Returned to hospital ..	7	5	—
8	Moved out of area ..	8	4	—
9	Now working	20	4	1
*12	Returned to hospital ..	8	5	4
13	Working	4	3	—
*20	Returned to hospital ..	3	1	—
23	Home situation now satis- factory	7	4	2

* Now re-opened.

General

- (a) The social worker engaged in this scheme is also working for the Psychiatric Out-Patient Department, Hallam Hospital, and also undertakes any special work required in the West Bromwich area by the Medical Superintendent, St. Matthew's Hospital, Burntwood. Because of this arrangement co-ordination has been facilitated and co-operation has been readily obtained to help the individual patient as quickly as possible.

Without exception all the general practitioners contacted over cases have been helpful and sympathetic.

A number of organisations have been concerned in the rehabilitation of these cases, but the major task has been to adjust the patients to their environments and/or the environments to the patients. This has been attempted by a series of interviews, first to assess the situation and then to attempt to give insight to the persons involved of the factors determining the attitudes and the problems.

- (b) Under the Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts, 1890 — 1930, the duly authorised officer is responsible for advising and assisting relations and doctors in the matter of admitting cases to mental hospitals. Appended are details of the number of cases dealt with in the year ended December, 1949.

Admissions :

Certified	27
Temporary patients	2
14 day orders	8
3 day orders	6
Voluntary	41
	—
Total	84
	—

Discharges :

Certified	..	..	..	17
14 day orders	..	..	..	3
Voluntary patients	..	..	..	33
				—
Total	..	..	..	53
				—

- (c) Under the Mental Deficiency Acts, 1913 — 1938, duties are carried out by the mental deficiency visitor who has had extensive experience in this work, particularly in this area.

(i) Ascertainment.

At the end of the year one case was awaiting a vacancy in a mental deficiency institution. Cases are ascertained through the usual channels, that is to say by reports from the Education Committee and through information received from health visitors, school nurses, local doctors and occasionally by parents themselves. It is our experience that since the 5th July, 1948, it has been considerably more difficult to obtain places for mental defectives in institutions.

(ii) Guardianship and supervision.

Since it is now possible under the National Assistance Act for the Assistance Board to make grants to mental defectives as handicapped persons, a number of patients previously under guardianship have been de-certified and are now looked upon as being merely under statutory supervision. Cases under guardianship or under statutory or voluntary supervision are regularly supervised as stated before.

(iii) Training.

During the year the Committee gave careful consideration to the setting up of an occupation centre in West Bromwich and visited centres in other areas in order to obtain ideas and extend their knowledge. It is the policy of the Committee to set up an occupation centre, but at the moment plans are held in abeyance owing to the difficulty of obtaining trained supervisors for such centres and also of finding suitable premises. It is hoped, however, that in due course a centre will be set up in the town. In the meantime a number of cases from West Bromwich attend occupation centres in other areas.

MENTAL DEFICIENCY ACTS

1. Number of mental defectives ascertained to be "subject to be dealt with" :

	M.	F.	Total
1. "Under Order"			
(a) In Institutions (including cases on licence therefrom)			
Under 16 years of age ..	8	8	16
Age 16 years and over ..	84	107	191
(b) Under Guardianship (including cases on licence therefrom)			
Under 16 years of age ..	—	—	—
Age 16 years and over ..	—	—	—
(c) In "places of safety" ..	—	—	—
(d) Under Statutory Supervision (excluding cases on licence)			
Under 16 years of age ..	12	20	32
Age 16 years and over ..	57	46	103
(e) Action not yet taken under any one of the above headings	—	—	—
Total ascertained cases found to be "subject to be dealt with"	161	181	342
No. of cases included in (b) to (e) above waiting removal to an Institution ..	—	—	—

2. Number of mental defectives not at present "subject to be dealt with" but over whom some form of voluntary supervision is maintained :

Under 16 years of age ..	—	—	—
Age 16 years and over ..	23	20	43
Total number of mental defectives (1) plus (2) ..	184	201	385

During the year 16 new cases have been added to the register and 10 have been removed, making a total of 385 on the register. This figure includes 2 cases transferred to Rampton Hospital and 1 case transferred to Moss Side Hospital.

Ascertainment

The 16 cases were referred through the following source :

- 6 notified by the Local Education Authority in accordance with Section 57, Sub-section 3 of the Education Acts, 1944 (ineducable for statutory supervision).
- 6 notified by the Local Education Authority in accordance with Section 57, Sub-section 5, of the Education Acts, 1944, for statutory supervision after leaving the Junior Practical School.
- 1 notified by the Local Education Authority to the Local Mental Welfare Committee for voluntary supervision, to be re-examined in June, 1950. Parents not willing for child to be in the care of the Local Mental Welfare Committee at this stage.
- 2 notified by the Mental Welfare Officer, Birmingham. Family now residing in West Bromwich.
- 1 notified by Dr. Clegg, Medical Superintendent, St. Matthew's Hospital, Burntwood. In need of institutional care under the Mental Deficiency Acts.

Provision for Institutional Accommodation

Owing to shortage of staff, St. Margaret's Hospital, Great Barr, has a waiting list of patients requiring admission.

Guardianship

The seven cases which were under guardianship at the beginning of January, 1949, have been decertified and placed under statutory supervision. No new cases have been put under guardianship.

Petitions

Four petitions were presented during 1949 and Orders made and cases removed to St. Margaret's Hospital, Great Barr.

- 1 male over the age of 16 years.
- 1 male under the age of 16 years.
- 2 females under the age of 16 years.

Licence

Three new cases were placed on licence during the year from St. Margaret's Hospital and two were returned, making a total of 33 cases on licence.

14 males.

19 females.

Supervision

There are 135 defectives under statutory supervision and 43 under voluntary supervision. It would appear that the majority of these cases are satisfactory. They are either at work or being maintained in their own homes with an allowance made by the National Assistance Board towards their maintenance.

3 cases have died during the year.

Visits and interviews during the year .. 733

REPORT OF SENIOR DENTAL OFFICER

G. J. S. LITTLEFIELD, L.D.S.

In submitting the Annual Report on the dental service provided by the Authority under Section 22 of the National Health Service Act, for 1949, it is regretted that staff shortage has again greatly limited the scope of the work. The equivalent of rather less than 0·2 of a full-time dental officer has been available although out of a total of 347 sessions, 79 were devoted to the treatment of expectant and nursing mother and pre-school children.

As last year, the treatment of the expectant and nursing mother has been divided between Hallam Hospital and the Central Clinic. At the hospital, all patients referred by the medical staff were inspected and necessary extractions carried out under general anaesthesia. Attendances at the clinic were mostly for the provision of dentures, 50 of which were supplied during the year. To cope with the denture work outstanding at the beginning of the year, fourteen evening sessions were worked between March and September. A further attempt was made to persuade patients to have fillings and prophylactic treatment, but again the response was so poor and so many appointments were broken that the attempt was abandoned. Many of these patients have had bad teeth for years and have had one or more children previously without any obvious ill effect on either themselves or the children and they cannot be persuaded that the presence of septic or carious teeth, although giving no apparent trouble, can have any injurious effect. The general attitude is that as soon as the teeth ache they will have them out and be done with it.

Staff shortage has made it impossible for any scheme of regular inspection and treatment of children under five to be operated. Those attending welfare clinics are referred by the medical officers when treatment is considered necessary, others attend the clinic as casuals. During the year 163 were examined and 149 referred for treatment. Attendances made were 321 of which 167 were for treatment. The actual number treated was 160 which includes 11 who were inspected in the previous year but not treated.

Although not now the responsibility of the local health authority, dental emergencies occurring among the tuberculous patients in Heath Lane Hospital have been treated. The number was small and did not interfere seriously with the other work of the clinic.

A Kingsway X-ray unit has been installed at the Central Clinic and has proved a valuable aid to diagnosis.

In conclusion, I wish to express my thanks to the medical, nursing and clerical staff of the Health Department for their willing co-operation and assistance, without which the work of the dental service would have been even more difficult.

I append details of the dental service provided under Section 22 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, for the year ended 31st December, 1949.

(a) Numbers provided with dental care.

<i>Patient</i>	<i>Examined</i>	<i>Needing treatment</i>	<i>Treated</i>	<i>Made dentally fit</i>
Expectant and nursing mothers	126	124	146	133
Children under five ..	163	149	160	160

(b) Forms of dental treatment provided.

<i>Patient</i>	<i>Extractions</i>	<i>Anæsthetics</i>		<i>Fillings</i>	<i>Scalings or scalings and gum treatment</i>	<i>Silver Nitrate treatment</i>	<i>Dressings</i>	<i>X-Rays</i>	<i>Dentures provided</i>	
		<i>Local</i>	<i>General</i>						<i>Complete</i>	<i>Partial</i>
Expectant and nursing mothers	692	4	133	5	3	—	1	2	43	7
Children under five	350	2	153	4	1	11	6	—	—	—

SUPERANNUATION MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS

The undermentioned superannuation medical examinations were carried out during the year by the medical staff :

Number of examinations	..	..	83
Accepted .. .. .	..	..	74
Deferred for re-examination	..	..	8
Rejected .. .. .	..	..	1
Number of re-examinations	..	..	2
Accepted .. .. .	..	..	2

HOUSING

Although it must be obvious that the housing of the people is very closely associated with the health of the people, it is a little difficult to point with certainty to the exact part which housing plays in promoting the health of the people. It is certainly the case that many of the health problems with which my department is faced are concerned with bad housing, but it is also true that there are many families with young children living under grossly overcrowded conditions showing apparently no obvious detriment to their health. Nevertheless, no one would seriously doubt that good housing is almost as important as good feeding and a pure and wholesome water supply in maintaining the health of the people.

The housing situation in West Bromwich, so far as health is concerned, gives rise to a good deal of disquiet. Many people come up to the Health Department every week with the obvious but futile hope that if they can see the Medical Officer of Health and explain their problems to him then they will obtain a new house or at least improve their chances of obtaining one. It is our practice for every person seeking an interview to be seen by a senior member of the department, and if the Medical Officer of Health is available he sees people himself. It is, however, only very rarely that any real help can be given. This does not mean that we are unsympathetic to the needs of those whose claims we consider, nor that we are unaware of the benefit to health which would result to most of these families if their housing conditions could be improved. The plain fact is that there are so many applicants for houses, that if the claims of those who apply on health grounds were admitted then the supply of available houses would probably be completely absorbed. By arrangements with the Housing Committee, therefore, we make no recommendation on health grounds except where there is tuberculosis in the family and in these cases discretion is given to the Tuberculosis Officer to recommend an increase in the number of points over and above those which the applicant already possesses. We have found it necessary to apply this rule very rigidly and it is only in really exceptional cases that we have felt justified in making a recommendation to the Housing Committee in cases other than tuberculosis. Many of the cases which we enquire into are grievous in the extreme. Unfortunately for the time being there is no alternative but to take a firm line in dealing with this problem.

I have made reference in the section on tuberculosis to the great help which we have received from the Housing Committee and the Housing Department in the matter of re-housing tuberculous families. I should like here, in this section on housing, to re-affirm our gratitude to the Housing Committee and the Housing Department for the help they have given.

Owing to the continued deficiency in the provision of new housing accommodation it has not been possible to deal to any great extent with the problem of individual dwellings. During the year, however, 73 Demolition Orders and 10 Clearance Orders were obtained. These referred to dwelling houses which were so dangerous as to require immediate action. At the end of the year 148 houses upon which Demolition or Clearance Orders were operative were still being occupied. Deterioration in the housing conditions is most marked in unfit dwelling houses and it is hoped that the time is not far distant when an organised campaign can be launched to clear away these premises. One hundred and eight unfit houses were, in fact, demolished during the year. The total number of houses demolished in the Council Slum Clearance Programme now stands at :

Clearance Orders	..	..	..	1,798
Demolition Orders	..	..	..	573
				<hr/>
Total	..	..	..	2,371
				<hr/>

In the investigation of unsatisfactory living conditions I have received great help from the Chief Sanitary Inspector and his staff and also from the health visiting staff. While it is seldom that we can take active steps to help people living in unfit houses, apart from tuberculous households, the health visiting staff do all they can by way of encouragement and advice as to how the unsatisfactory housing conditions can best be combated. The Health Department looks forward to the time when all the people in the town will be housed under conditions which will leave no room for complaint. Unfortunately, however, it is not always the newness of bricks and mortar which determines the cleanliness of a house and there are some families, no matter how well they are housed, who soon deteriorate to their old unsatisfactory state.

As is well known, the Housing Committee have been most vigorous in the provision of new houses. In 1949, 601 new houses were occupied, and the types include :

30	..	Orlit
58	..	Direct labour
363	..	Traditional type
150	..	B.S.C.

From the start of the house building programme after the war a total of 1,810 houses have been completed.

MILK

In 1949 the existing legislation in regard to milk was consolidated and amended, and although as a result of this new legislation there has been no great departure from what was the practice in West Bromwich previously, it is thought that some short reference should be made to the various acts and regulations.

(a) **The Milk and Dairies (Special Designation) Act, 1949.**

This Act does not come into operation until the Minister designates West Bromwich as a "specified area," so that at the present time we have no responsibility under this Act. When, however, the Act is implemented and should West Bromwich then be made a "specified area," it will be necessary for us to ensure that all milk in the area is heat tested.

(b) **The Milk and Dairies Regulations. 1949.**

These follow fairly closely the previous Milk and Dairies Regulations. As a result of the regulations, however, all matters relating to the registration of dairy farms and dairy farmers now become the responsibility of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. The Health Department retains functions in regard to the distribution of milk. Certain extra powers are given to the Medical Officer of Health to deal with possible outbreaks of milk-borne disease and these should substantially strengthen the hands of the Medical Officer of Health in case such an outbreak should arise.

(c) **Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949.**

The Health Department now has no functions as regards the issuing of licences to producers, but remains responsible for recommending the granting of dealers' licences.

(d) **Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949.**

The Health Department retains responsibility for recommending the granting of dealers' licences for these two categories of milk. Practically 99% of the milk sold in West Bromwich is heat treated, although there may be a few bottles of tuberculin tested milk sold which is not so treated.

The general effect of this new legislation so far as the Health Department is concerned has been to remove our functions in regard to producers and to hand these over to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. The responsibility for the implementation of the regulations so far as distributors are concerned remains with the local Health Department. On the whole, the new regulations can be welcomed as a strengthening of our powers and as a means to the eventual provision of a clean and safe milk supply.

MISCELLANEOUS HEALTH MATTERS

There are a number of functions directly or indirectly related to health, which, while not being the responsibility of the Health Committee or of the Hygiene and Cleansing Committee, are the concern of other Committees of the Corporation. These are the Children's Committee, the Housing Committee and the Welfare Committee. I have referred already to the liaison which exists between the Health Department and the work of the Children's Committee and also to our close co-operation with the Housing Department. There remains the work of the Welfare Committee to which I should like to make a short reference.

The Welfare Committee of the Council set up under the National Assistance Act is concerned with the care of the old people, the care of the blind and certain other handicapped persons, but their main work at the moment is the care and welfare of old people. The Medical Officer of Health has had the privilege of acting as medical adviser to this Committee. It is a pleasure to place on record the great benefit which has resulted from the opening of the Home for Elderly Ladies at "The Hawthorns" and the Home for Elderly Men in Beeches Road.

The care and welfare of old people, however, does not stop at the provision of residential accommodation and the Health Department is frequently called upon to deal with problems concerning the welfare of old people in their own homes. From time to time we become aware of old people living in unsatisfactory and unhygienic conditions, and measures are taken in conjunction with the Chief Sanitary Inspector and Mr. Whiteman, the Welfare Officer, to ameliorate the housing conditions or to arrange for the removal of the old person to more satisfactory surroundings. It was not necessary during 1949 to take any action under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948, but in some cases we were able to persuade the old person to agree to being removed to suitable premises.

Another problem which has caused us a good deal of concern is the plight of many old people, already under the care of their doctors, for whom admission to hospital is desired but for whom there is no vacancy. Many such old people are urgently in need of hospital care, but with the acute shortage of hospital beds, or rather of nurses to staff the wards, too often the old person has a long wait before admission can be obtained. To get over this difficulty and to do something to counteract the bad conditions under which the old people are existing, arrangements were made, after a consultation with the hospital authorities and in collaboration with the general practitioners, to help these old people while they are awaiting admission to hospital. The procedure is as follows :

When a doctor asks a hospital to arrange for the admission of a case of chronic illness or senility and admission cannot be promised immediately, the name is put on the waiting list and at the same time is sent to the Health Department. The health visitor calls and makes a report to the Medical Officer of Health on the home conditions so that some estimate of the relative needs of these patients awaiting admission to hospital is obtained. If the case is obviously one of extreme urgency, from a sociological rather than from a medical point of view, the hospital is so informed and priority of admission is given. In all cases, however, an estimate is made as to what can be done for the old person by way of supplying a home help or arranging for a district nurse to visit. We have reason to think that by these means a good deal is done to make more comfortable these old people and to ease the burden which is undoubtedly sometimes placed on the relatives.

WEST BROMWICH CORPORATION ACT, 1949

During the year the Corporation promoted a Bill in Parliament which received the Royal Assent as the West Bromwich Corporation Act, 1949. A considerable part of this Act is concerned directly or indirectly with matters appertaining to health and although it is not possible here to give any extensive account of the new powers conferred on the Corporation, a brief outline of the various sections concerned with health is given below.

Those parts of the sections of the Act concerned with health and hygiene are as follows :

Part IV. Sewers and Drains.

Sections 57 to 65 inclusive.

Part VI. Food.

Sections 81 to 86 inclusive.

Part VII. Establishments for Massage or Special Treatment.

Sections 87 to 98 inclusive.

Part XI. Miscellaneous.

Section 134. Medicated and other baths.

Section 144. Noise nuisance.

This Act gives some very useful ancillary powers to the Health Department which supplement those already existing through national legislation. Although it is not likely that they will have any dramatic effect or influence they should prove valuable adjuncts to our existing powers and in some sections, for instance that relating to the Registration of Hairdressers and Barbers, are likely to be welcomed from within the profession itself.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND HYGIENE

Annual Report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector for the year ended 31st December, 1949

*To the Chairman and Members of the Hygiene and Cleansing
Committee.*

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report for the year 1949.

The year has once again been one of a strenuous character. The housing position still remained acute, and little progress can be recorded with regard to the clearance of unfit houses. There was, however, close co-operation between the Housing and Sanitary Departments, and by this co-operation some urgent cases were dealt with and conditions improved.

Much attention was given to the inspection of food preparing premises. The awakening of public opinion from the lethargy of the war years to the importance of cleanliness in the handling and preparation of food has assisted in raising the standard of cleanliness in the food and catering trades. The trades themselves are anxious to improve conditions, but, as in other spheres, shortage of labour and materials has prevented the attainment of those ideals which they desire.

The work of meat inspection increased during the year, and the Meat Inspectors were often engaged on meat inspection outside their normal working hours.

There was a change in the arrangements for the bacteriological examination of milk, water and other foods. For many years, these examinations have been carried out at the Bacteriological Department, the Medical School, Birmingham University, but with the reorganisation of the health services this work was transferred to the Laboratory of the Public Health Laboratory Service at Stafford. This Laboratory is, of course, not so accessible as that

which formerly functioned at Birmingham. Arrangements have, however, been made with the co-operation of the Wednesbury Health Department for samples to be deposited there for transmission to Stafford.

The problem of atmospheric pollution still remains difficult, for there is no boundary to pollution of the atmosphere, and pollution which occurs in one district may drift, due to atmospheric conditions, to other districts. Eight lead peroxide tubes for the measurement of sulphur were received from the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research at the beginning of the year and installed at eight points in the Borough.

The public cleansing service was affected during the winter months by the high rate of sickness prevailing and by the inability to secure temporary labour to tide over this difficult period. The directions and restrictions on paper salvage, which had been in operation since the beginning of the war were removed, and the price received for baled waste paper was also reduced. This necessitated a re-examination of the position of salvage collection, and after consideration, the service for collection of waste paper was reduced to one van.

Mr. J. E. Fleetwood, of Birmingham, was appointed to fill the vacant position of Assistant Cleansing Superintendent and has rendered good service.

My thanks are due to the whole of the staff for their loyal co-operation in maintaining the efficiency of the Department, and I have pleasure in testifying to the valuable assistance they have rendered me.

To the Chairman and Members of the Hygiene and Cleansing Committee my sincere thanks are due for their courtesy and support during the year, and to the Town Clerk, the Medical Officer of Health and other chief officers, I am indebted for their help and advice.

W. W. FOAKES,

Chief Sanitary Inspector,
Superintendent Refuse
Removal and Disposal.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE BOROUGH

Inspections

There was an increase in the number of inspections during the year due in the main to increased attention given to shops and food preparation premises. The total number of inspections made was 17,130, details of which are included in the following table :

Special Housing Inspections	782
Houses inspected under Public Health Acts, Housing Acts, etc.	1,036
Miscellaneous Inspections	5,511
Re-inspections	5,003
Theatres, Cinemas, etc.	18
Lodging Houses and Houses-let-in-Lodgings	27
Factories	109
Shops and Food Premises	2,481
Bakehouses	37
Dairies	216
Cowsheds	71
Food and Drugs Act visits	523
Atmospheric Pollution	140
Slaughterhouses (including Cottagers' Pigs)	1,048
Fumigation	23
Smoke Observations	105
	<hr/>
	17,130
	<hr/>

Complaints Received

There was a slight decrease in the number of complaints received during the year and recorded at the Sanitary Department. Complaints received by the Sanitary Inspectors during the course of their duties are not included in the total of 815.

Notices Served

The total number of notices served under the Public Health Act, 1936, was 1,502 consisting of 1,222 informal notices and 280 Statutory notices. The total number of houses concerned was 2,121.

Improvements Effected

As a result of the service of notices, 2,941 improvements were effected. The main improvements are concerned with the repair of houses, and in particular, roofs. In five instances sculleries were provided to houses. Included in the improvements were the conversion of 27 privies to the water carriage system. These conversions complete the change-over of the Hamstead area to water closets, and no privies now remain except those attached to farms or rural cottages where no sewers are available.

SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS EFFECTED IN PURSUANCE OF INSPECTIONS MADE AND NOTICES SERVED

Interiors of Houses

Houses cleansed or redecorated ..	52
Repairs to plastering, brickwork or woodwork carried out	571
Ventilation provided or improved ..	204
Flooded cellars drained or filled in ..	4

Exteriors of Houses

Damp external walls — brickwork repaired or covered with imper- vious material or damp-proof courses inserted	81
Defective roofs made weathertight ..	414
Spouting renewed, repaired or cleansed	156
Chimneys repaired or repointed ..	49

Yards, Outbuildings and Washing Accommodation

Outbuildings cleansed and repaired ..	459
Earthenware sinks provided or existing sinks repaired	44
Dangerous wells or cisterns abolished or suitable covers provided ..	21
Surface paving provided, renewed or repaired	22
Dangerous boundary walls repaired ..	6

Water Supply

Insufficient water supply--remedied..	12
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Drainage

Defective drainage relaid or repaired	39
Choked drainage opened and cleansed	169

Sanitary Conveniences

Additional water closets provided ..	5
Water closets repaired	78
Defective connections repaired or pedestals renewed	99
Defective flushing apparatus repaired or insufficient water supply remedied	32
Privies abolished or converted to water closets	27
Defective dustbins renewed	303
Sculleries provided	5
Waste water closets converted ..	3

Offensive Accumulations

Accumulations removed	14
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Factories and Workshops

Additional water closet accommodation provided or existing accommodation improved	38
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Food Premises	20
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Miscellaneous	14
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2,941

Court Proceedings under the Public Health Act, 1936

Summonses were issued in 21 instances. This was an increase over the number issued during the previous year. It will be noticed that fines were administered in two cases. The details of the summonses issued are as under :

<i>Situation of Premises</i>	<i>Nature of Complaint</i>	<i>Acts or Byelaws under which proceedings were instituted</i>	<i>Result</i>
6, Lily Street	Dilapidated house	Public Health Act, 1936, Section 94	Summons withdrawn on completion of work. Costs 4/6
2, Lily Street	do.	do.	21/- reasonable expenses. 4/- Court Costs

<i>Situation of Premises</i>	<i>Nature of Complaint</i>	<i>Acts or Byelaws under which proceedings were instituted</i>	<i>Result</i>
Caravan on Land, Peters. Street	For keeping a moveable dwelling on land without being licenced	Public Health Act, 1936, Section 269	Van removed
2, Pitt Street	Dilapidated house	Public Health Act, 1936, Section 94	Summons withdrawn on completion of work Costs 4/-
26, Cross Street	do.	do.	do.
62/64, Lyng Lane	Dilapidated houses	do.	do.
14/16, Bond Street	do.	do.	do.
13/15 Newhall Street	do.	do.	do.
47, Reform Street	do.	do.	Fined £5 Costs 4/-
20, 22, 24 and 26 Parsonage Street	do.	do.	Summons withdrawn on completion of work Costs 4/-
22, 24 and 26, Parsonage Street	do.	do.	do.
26, Parsonage Street	Dilapidated house	do.	do.
24, Parsonage Street	do.	do.	do.
22, Parsonage Street	do.	do.	do.
20, Parsonage Street	do.	do.	do.
1, Church Vale	do.	do.	do.
142, Hargate Lane	do.	do.	Expenses 21/- Costs 4/-
45, Reform Street	No water supply	W.B.C. Act, 1900, Section 62	Fined £3 Costs 4/-
95, Guns Lane	Dilapidated house	Public Health Act, 1936, Section 94	Summons withdrawn on completion of work Costs 4/-
60, Railway Street	do.	do.	Expenses 21/- Costs 4/-
23, Hayes Street	do.	do.	Costs 4/-

With the exception of two cases, the summonses were in connection with the repairs to dwelling-houses. The two exceptions referred to the absence of a supply of water for drinking and domestic purposes to a dwelling-house, the proceedings being instituted under the West Bromwich Corporation Act ; and to the occupation of a Caravan which was not licenced.

Common Lodging Houses and Houses-let-in-Lodgings

The Common Lodging House in Spon Lane was regularly inspected and as the result of action taken by the Department, the bedding was renewed.

One of the Houses-let-in-Lodgings known as Victoria Flats, which had been a source of considerable trouble for a number of years was removed from the register. The occupants were removed and the premises converted for business use. The number of houses registered as Houses-let-in-Lodgings is now five.

Theatres and Cinemas

There are eight cinemas and one theatre in the Borough, all of which have been well maintained during the year.

Factories Act, 1937

One hundred and nine inspections were made of factories during the year and forty-three notices were served. The majority of these notices were served towards the end of the year.

Details of the notices served are as under :

	Found	Remedied
Want of Cleanliness	2	1
Insufficient Sanitary Accommodation ..	7	5
Defective Sanitary Accommodation ..	30	17
Not separate accommodation for sexes ..	4	1

Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919, and Infestation Order, 1943

All the tips in the Borough were regularly inspected and where there was evidence of rat infestation baits were laid. Generally the tips are free from any infestation of a serious character.

As required by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (Infestation Control Division) a "vertical block test" was made of the sewers. Baits were laid where infestations had occurred in previous years. Three hundred and sixteen baits were laid, but in only four cases were the baits taken. It can therefore be presumed that the sewers are free from infestation.

A total of 166 complaints were received of rat infestations. A total of 2,435 baits were laid at 69 business premises and 116 private dwelling-houses in connection with both rat and mice infestations.

Disinfection

As in past years, disinfection was carried out at premises following cases of infectious disease. 117 premises were so disinfected.

Disinfestation

The furniture from houses where there is evidence of bug infestation is fumigated with Hydrocyanic Acid Gas (Cyanosorb) before delivery to Council houses, and a total of 250 van-loads of furniture was so treated during the year. This fumigation is carried out in the Corporation's own furniture vans specially equipped for the purpose.

In addition, the disinfestation of 63 houses was carried out by the use of insecticide sprays containing D.D.T.

Complaints were also received of infestations of cockroaches at dwelling-houses, and on a refuse tip. In the case of the dwelling-houses Gammexane or D.D.T. was used, and Gammexane used on the tip, both with excellent results.

Smoke Abatement and Atmospheric Pollution

A total of 105 observations of smoke emissions from factory chimneys was made during the year. In each case the factory was visited after the observation and the plant causing the smoke emission inspected. It was found in some cases that the emission was caused by carelessness of the operatives and in quite a number of cases by the unsuitable fuel used. In the cases where unsuitable fuel was used, the assistance of the Ministry of Fuel was obtained.

A large number of complaints was received during the year regarding atmospheric pollution. Complaints received from various parts of the town related to a nuisance which was traced to a neighbouring borough. This nuisance appears to have been abated due to action taken by H.M. Alkali Works Inspector and the Local Authority concerned.

Complaints were also dealt with concerning :

<i>Premises</i>	<i>Complaint</i>	<i>Action Taken</i>
Rag Flock Works ..	Emission of dust ..	Settling chamber rebuilt ; new filter and cyclone installed.
Foundry	Emission of metallic dust	Cyclones installed with water bosh.
Chemical Works ..	Emission of smoke	Improvements re stoking and fuel.
Ironworks	Emission of smoke	Change-over from old gas producer plant to modern oil firing.
Foundry	Emission of grit	Improved water-seal in chamber.
Sawing Mills	Emission of wood- ash	Improvements to incinerator to by-pass resinous dust.
Laundry	Emission of smoke	Welsh steam coal again provided after representa- tions to Ministry of Fuel.
Stamping Works ..	Emission of smoke	Better control of oil-fuel by operatives.
Chemical Works ..	Emission of fumes	Appliances installed for treatment of acid fumes.
Dairy	Emission of smoke	Change-over from coal to coke.

Nuisances relating to a foundry and chemical works were still being dealt with at the end of the year.

Atmospheric Gauges

The following are the monthly recordings (in tons per square mile) taken from the Deposit Gauges :

<i>Month</i>	<i>Baths</i>	<i>G. Salter School</i>	<i>M.E.B.</i>	<i>Isolation Hospital</i>
January	18.98	18.16	24.68	16.28
February	18.37	16.74	23.32	14.56
March	21.12	25.11	21.37	14.57
April	21.82	23.3	28.02	18.87
May	23.1	24.4	32.7	18.2
June	14.92	15.5	15.22	10.2
July	19.38	23.41	23.03	16.72
August	19.93	18.3	22.4	15.2
September ..	—	18.8	23.05	13.74
October	33.56	21.2	26.46	17.61
November ..	—	19.24	28.7	19.78
December	18.89	16.97	28.62	20.75
Total deposit p.a.	210.07	241.13	297.57	196.48
Monthly Averages	21.00	20.09	24.8	16.37

Owing to the inferior type of bottle provided, the recordings at the Baths could not be measured in September and November due to the breakage of the bottles.

From these recordings it will be noted that the heaviest deposit is at the Midlands Electricity Board, Black Lake, and the lowest at the Isolation Hospital.

The monthly average for the whole of the Town was 20.54.

Lead Peroxide Gauges — Record of Sulphur Pollution

Eight lead peroxide gauges were established in February for the measurement of the sulphur pollution in the atmosphere and these gauges were installed at the following stations: Kenrick Park; Public Baths; George Salter Schools; M.E.B., Black Lake; Harvills Hawthorne; Isolation Hospital; Ray Hall Sewage Works and Red House Park.

The weight of Sulphur Trioxide (SO₃) collected in milligrams per 100 sq. cms. per day, is shown in the following table:

<i>Month</i>		<i>Kenrick Park</i>	<i>Public Baths</i>	<i>G. Salter Schools</i>	<i>M.E.B.</i>	<i>Harvills Hawthorne</i>	<i>Isolation Hospital</i>	<i>Ray Hall</i>	<i>Red House Park</i>
February	..	4.24	2.58	3.06	2.11	3.98	3.29	2.01	1.65
March	..	3.13	2.18	2.6	2.83	4.15	2.0	2.32	1.56
April	..	2.72	1.5	1.8	2.2	1.85	2.13	1.49	1.36
May	..	1.99	1.44	1.52	2.07	2.72	1.52	1.24	0.91
June	..	1.67	0.85	1.2	1.53	2.14	1.06	0.94	0.8
July	..	1.11	0.75	0.8	1.27	1.32	0.95	0.79	0.49
August	..	1.83	0.93	1.19	1.58	2.12	1.07	1.27	0.73
September	..	1.54	0.98	1.35	1.83	1.45	1.35	1.13	0.78
October	..	2.44	1.8	1.89	2.79	1.82	2.2	1.57	1.4
November	..	3.5	2.12	2.48	2.62	2.58	2.32	2.24	1.61
December	..	3.49	1.8	2.16	2.33	2.38	2.74	1.46	1.98
Monthly Averages	..	2.51	1.54	1.82	2.1	2.41	1.87	1.49	1.2

It will be noticed from the above table that the heaviest deposits occur at Kenrick Park.

Water Supplies

The public water supply is derived from the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company and the City of Birmingham Water Department. The water received is treated, and was satisfactory both in quantity and quality during the year.

Bacteriological examinations were made of 26 samples of water, the results being as under :

	Number	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory
From wells and springs ..	7	4	3
From South Staffs. Water Co.	9	9	—
From City of Birmingham Supply	4	4	—

With regard to the three unsatisfactory samples, two were taken from a spring on agricultural land and the other from a shallow well serving a farmhouse and two cottages. In the latter case plans are already well advanced for the provision of a piped supply and in the former precautionary measures have been advised for the time being.

Six samples of water were taken from the Public Baths, all of which were satisfactory.

Seven samples of water were taken for chemical analysis and details of the result of the examination of the last sample by the Public Analyst are as follows :

	Results expressed in parts per 100,000		
Free and Saline Ammonia	0
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.0016
Chlorine in Chlorides	4.2
Nitrogen in Nitrates and Nitrites	0.32
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate at 80 deg. F. in 4 hours	0.026
Total solids dried at 100 deg. C.	54
Nitrite	Absent
pH	
Free Chlorine	
Appearance — Bright, few small particles.			

The number of dwelling-houses and the population supplied with water from the mains is as under :

	Houses	Population	Percentage
(a) Direct to houses ..	20,079	76,807	88.88%
(b) Houses sharing standpipes	850	3,187	3.68%
(c) Houses sharing common taps	1,717	6,439	7.44%

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOODS

Meat Inspection

There was a considerable increase in the number of pigs slaughtered at the three slaughterhouses in the Borough. A total of 13,341 carcasses were slaughtered and inspected at these establishments. This was an increase of 9,674 animals slaughtered during the year compared with the total in 1948. As in previous years, owing to the irregular delivery of pigs or to emergency slaughtering, some of the inspections had to be made on Sundays and outside the normal working hours. A total of 691 visits were paid to slaughterhouses.

The following table required by the Ministry of Health gives particulars of the incidence of disease found in carcasses :

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	<i>Cattle exclu- ding Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>
Number killed (if known)	—	—	—	—	13,341
Number inspected	—	—	—	—	13,341
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS :					
Whole carcasses condemned ..	—	—	—	—	14
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ..	—	—	—	—	286
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis ..	—	—	—	—	2.24
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY :					
Whole carcasses condemned ..	—	—	—	—	19
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ..	—	—	—	—	436
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with tuber- culosis	—	—	—	—	3.41

Although there was an increase in the tonnage of pork condemned, the percentage of pigs affected with tuberculosis was less than that of the previous year.

Cottagers' Pigs

During the year, 357 notifications were received relating to 423 pigs. In each case the carcass was inspected.

CLASSIFICATION AND WEIGHTS OF FOOD CONDEMNED

		Tons	Cwts.	Qtrs.	Lbs.
Pork	.. ..	6	1	1	17
Beef	.. ..		1	1	18
Bacon	.. ..		2	3	6
Fish (Wet)	.. ..		1	0	7
Dried Fruit	.. ..		3	1	0
Cheese	.. ..			5	6
Confectionery	.. ..		1	2	17
Miscellaneous	.. ..			2	10
Tinned Fruit and Jam			8	2	23
Tinned Milk	.. ..		7	3	24
Tinned Vegetables			13	3	11
Tinned Meat	.. ..		4	3	7
Tinned Fish	.. ..		3	4	21
Rabbits	.. ..			1	12
Sausage	.. ..		2	2	18
Shell-Fish	.. ..		3	0	0
		8	19	0	1

Inspection of Premises where Food is Prepared, Stored or Sold

There was an increase in the number of visits paid to food premises and considerable time was spent by the Inspectorial Staff on the inspection of food premises and in spreading propaganda in connection with "clean food," particularly in the handling of food. There is no doubt that with the advent of the Byelaws relating to the Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food in the near future, greater strides will be made in this direction.

Improvements were effected at the food preparation rooms at a multiple store ; a cafe bar was replanned ; extraction hoods to remove steam were installed in a restaurant ; and four restaurants were redecorated.

The inspection of all licenced premises is still continuing, and as the result of these inspections, installations for the provision of hot water were effected where these facilities were not provided.

The manufacture of potato crisps was found to be taking place in a building scheduled for demolition. The proprietor immediately ceased manufacture and transferred to other more suitable premises. It was also found that potato crisps were being manufactured in premises at the rear of a shop in the High Street. As the premises did not comply with the Food and Drugs Act, the manufacturers ceased production and moved to an adjoining town. At Tame Bridge, rooms were adapted for the manufacture of potato crisps, and mechanical ventilation, hot water and drainage were provided.

Particular attention was given to fried fish shops and improvements were effected at 19 premises as the result of inspections made.

Eight applications were received during the year for the registration of premises in connection with the manufacture or sale of preserved food and of this number two were refused as not complying with the provisions of Section 13 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Ice Cream

There are 25 premises registered for the sale and manufacture, and 78 premises registered for the sale of ice cream.

Thirty-three applications were received during the year for registration of premises for the sale only of ice cream, and of this number, one was refused. Regular inspections have been made of these premises, but in the majority of cases, ice cream is only sold at the week-end. Owing to the change-over in the examination of ice cream samples from the Laboratory at Hallam Hospital to the Public Health Laboratory Service, Stafford, only 25 samples were taken for bacteriological examination, the results of the analyses being as follows :

Grade I	Grade II	Grade III	Grade IV
10	7	4	4

Appropriate action was taken when the sample was below Grade II.

Artificial Cream

There is one premise registered for the manufacture of artificial cream. Samples taken from a churn gave the high count of 1,152,000 bacteria per c.c. The plant manufacturing the artificial cream was dismantled, cleansed and sterilised, and advice regarding the use of suitable detergents was given to the manufacturers. Subsequent samples gave counts of 300 bacteria per c.c., and none of the samples exceeded 800 bacteria per c.c.

Milk Supply

Practically the whole of the milk supplied in the town is heat-treated. There are two sterilising plants and one pasteurising plant in the town. Samples have regularly been taken from these plants and all samples taken have satisfactorily passed the requisite tests.

The supervision and registration of all dairy farms passed to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries as from 1st October, 1949, but before that date 71 visits were made to these farms, and at one farm a new dairy was erected.

Bacteriological Examination of Milk

During the year there was a change in the examination of milk samples. For many years these samples were submitted to the Bacteriological Department of the University of Birmingham, but owing to the re-organisation of the Health Service, the Public Health Laboratory Service, Stafford, now undertakes these examinations. This Laboratory is, of course, not so easily available as the one at Birmingham. Sixty samples were submitted during the year, with the following results :

Class of Milk	No. of Samples	Appropriate Test	No. of Samples	
			Passed	Failed
Pasteurised	23	Methylene Blue and B. Coli	21	2
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) ..	3	do.	3	—
Accredited	12	do.	7	5
Undesignated	22	do.	11	11
Totals	60		42	18

The percentage of samples failing the tests was 30% compared with 24·09% last year.

Heat Treated Milk

72 samples of Heat Treated milk were taken during the year, and all samples satisfactorily passed the requisite tests.

Biological Examination of Milk

Five samples of milk were taken and submitted for the Biological test. These samples were taken from farms in the Borough.

One sample proved positive and the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries were notified, and the affected animal was subsequently slaughtered.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

Adulteration of Food and Drugs

During the year, 264 samples of food and drugs comprising 54 formal and 210 informal samples were taken and submitted to the Public Analyst for analysis.

The quarterly details of the results of these samples are given in the following table :

		<i>Samples Analysed</i>		<i>Satisfactory</i>		<i>Unsatisfactory</i>	
		<i>Milk</i>	<i>Other Foods</i>	<i>Milk</i>	<i>Other Foods</i>	<i>Milk</i>	<i>Other Foods</i>
1st Quarter	..	23	40	23	36	—	4
2nd Quarter	..	24	46	24	39	—	7
3rd Quarter	..	22	40	19	35	3	5
4th Quarter	..	11	58	11	53	—	5
Total..	..	80	184	77	163	3	21

The following table shows the action taken regarding the 24 samples certified as unsatisfactory or adulterated :

List of Adulterated or Unsatisfactory Samples of Food and Drugs

<i>Description of Article</i>	<i>Nature or Extent of Adulteration</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
Bronchial Mixture Sample No. 254 (Informal)	Excess of approx. 43% of Acid Hydrobrom. dil.	Manufacturers cautioned
Tomato Sauce Sample No. 279 (Informal)	Contained 0.053% Saccharin	Ministry of Food informed
Tomato Sauce Sample No. 292 (Informal)	Contained 0.035% Saccharin	Ministry of Food informed
Tincture of Iodine Sample No. 305 (See sample No. 315) (Informal)	Contained 1.5% Potas- sium Iodide instead of 2.5%	Old stock withdrawn by retailer — cautioned
Tincture of Iodine Sample No. 315 (Formal)	Deficiency of 34% Potassium Iodide	Formal sample following up sample No. 305
Milk Sample No. 317 (Informal)	Deficiency of 10% Fat	Sample taken from lorry consigned to another town
Rheumatic Lotion Sample No. 322 (Informal)	Deficiency of 32% Liq. Ammon. Fort.	Allowance to be made for loss by manufac- turers who replaced stock and used more efficient stoppers to prevent loss, cautioned
Dressed Crab Sample No. 326 (Informal)	Contained 24% cereal filler	Unable to obtain formal sample
Tomato Sauce Sample No. 364 (Informal)	Badly fermenting and contained much live yeast	—vendor cautioned— Manufacturers cautioned stock withdrawn

<i>Description of Article</i>	<i>Nature or Extent of Adulteration</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
Tomato Sauce Sample No. 374 (Informal)	Contained 0.04% Saccharin and 100 p.p.m. Benzoic Acid	Manufacturer gone into liquidation— wholesaler cautioned
Tomato Sauce Sample No. 375 (Informal)	Contained 0.038% Saccharin and 140 p.p.m. Benzoic Acid	do.
Scone Flour Sample No. 385 (Informal)	Statement of ingredients on label not correct	Manufacturer cautioned
Gripe Mixture Sample No. 389 (Informal)	Contained large black particles of organic matter	do.
Syrup of Figs Sample No. 396 (Informal)	Label incorrect	Manufacturer cautioned. Stock with- drawn and labels altered
Tincture of Quinine Sample No. 403 (Informal)	No statement of ingredients given	Retailer cautioned
Koray Tablets Sample No. 408 (Informal)	False label	Manufacturer cautioned. New labels issued
Milk Sample No. 413 (Informal)	Contained 6.4% extraneous water	See below. Formal sample
Milk Sample No. 429 (Formal)	Contained 10.5% extraneous water	Fined £5 and £2 costs
Milk Sample No. 430 (Formal)	Contained 2.9% extraneous water	Fined £2 10s.
Tincture of Iodine Sample No. 451 (Informal)	Contained 6.3% excessive Iodine, deficient of 36% Potassium Iodide	Old stock. Manufac- turers and retailers cautioned and stock withdrawn
Syrup of Figs Sample No. 452 (Informal)	Labelling offence	Manufacturers cautioned.
Tincture of Iodine Sample No. 466 (Informal)	Contained 6.3% excessive Iodine, deficient of 36% Potassium Iodide	New labels issued Old stock. Manufac- turers and retailers cautioned.
Syrup of Figs Sample No. 467 (Informal)	Labelled "Own formula" label unsatisfactory	Stock withdrawn Manufacturers cautioned.
Zinc Ointment Sample No. 499 (Informal)	Deficient of 1.5% zinc oxide	New labels issued Vendor cautioned

The percentage of unsatisfactory samples calculated on all samples taken was 9.09%.

Comparison of adulteration with previous years gives the following results :

1945	1946	1947	1948	1949
8.3%	7.86%	7.03%	10.305%	9.09%

Legal Proceedings under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938

<i>Nature of Complaint</i>	<i>Section</i>	<i>Result</i>
Selling to the prejudice of the purchaser, milk not being of the nature, nor of the substance, nor of the quality of the article demanded	Section 3 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938	Summons issued against vendor. Fined £5 with £2 2s. costs, and a further fine of £2 10s.

Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1926

Eleven samples of fertiliser were taken during the year, two of which were unsatisfactory. In each case appropriate action was taken.

In addition, samples of feeding stuffs supplied to a piggery were taken following the death of a number of pigs. The samples proved harmless, but from a sample of the contents of the pig's stomach and of the pig swill used at the piggery, results gave general reaction for alkaloids and specific reactions indicating ergotoxine.

Pharmacy and Poisons Act, 1933, and Pharmacy and Medicines Act, 1941

There are 71 names entered on the List of Persons entitled to sell poisonous substances listed in Part II of the Poisons List. In each case, the premises were visited before the entry of the name on the List.

Rag Flock Act

There is one rag flock factory in the Borough, and one sample taken at the works proved to be satisfactory, and conformed to the standard of cleanliness laid down in the Rag Flock Regulations 1912.

Public Cleansing

During the year the five-day week continued with the exception of the six-weeks period prior to the end of the year, and a similar period in the new year. This arrangement has worked satisfactorily, but some difficulty has been experienced, as in former years, with regard to the provision of labour.

During the winter season the sickness rate was very heavy and it was impossible to obtain suitable labour to replace those incapacitated through sickness or otherwise absent. Nevertheless, on no occasion was collection more than fourteen days in arrear during the winter period.

During the year three Lewin Compressors were added to the transport fleet to replace worn-out vehicles and the fleet now consists of four Lewin Compressors and nine other covered side-loading refuse collection vehicles.

The new 500-gallon Cesspool Emptier was also delivered and has proved itself very efficient.

The directions relating to the collection of salvage, with the exception of kitchen waste, were removed by the Board of Trade, and as the result of this removal and the reduction in the price paid for baled waste paper, it was decided that one of the vans used for the collection of waste paper should be discontinued and the service restricted to the collection of waste paper and cardboard from business premises. This arrangement has so far worked satisfactorily.

The separation plant at Black Lake, which had broken down and was beyond repair, was demolished, and the materials sold as salvage.

All refuse is now dealt with by controlled tipping and is tipped at Heath Lane and Hamstead. It will be noticed that the alteration in the collection of salvage did not materially affect the amount of salvage collected during the past year, but there is no doubt that this will be reflected in next year's collection.

I would again like to pay tribute to the help and co-operation which I have received from the Transport Manager, Mr. A. Witcomb Smith and his staff, in the maintenance of the lorries during the year.

House Refuse Collection and Disposal

Total number of premises from which refuse was collected	.. .. .	23,281
Total number of loads of refuse collected	..	16,175
Total tonnage of refuse collected	.. ..	25,671
Total tonnage of nightsoil collected	.. ..	214
Total tonnage collected from cesspools	..	2,205
Gross cost of collection	.. .. .	£31,914
Gross cost of disposal	.. .. .	£7,848

Gross cost per ton of collection	£1 4s. 10·37d.
Gross cost per ton of disposal	6s. 1·38d.
Gross cost of collection and disposal per ton	£1 10s. 11·74d.
Net cost of collection and disposal per ton	£1 6s. 10·27d.
Net cost of collection and disposal per 1,000 population	£400 16s. 6·14d.
Net cost of collection and disposal from each premises per annum	£1 9s. 7·78d.

Output of Refuse per annum (excluding Cesspool Contents)

<i>Output</i>	<i>1946</i>	<i>1947</i>	<i>1948</i>	<i>1949</i>
Per 1,000 of population ..	285·17 tons	260·15 tons	271·08 tons	272·86 tons
Per house ..	20·86 cwts.	19·72 cwts.	20·46 cwts.	20·16 cwts.

Recovery of Waste and Dormant Materials

The total tonnage of waste materials salvaged during the year and income received was as follows :

	Tons	Cwts.	Qtrs.	£	s.	d.
Waste Paper ..	420	1	3	2,565	8	0
Baled Ferrous Scrap	117	9	3	254	17	2
Black Scrap	43	3	2	107	16	4
Non Ferrous Scrap ..		10	1	18	8	11
Textiles	8	8	2	122	12	9
Bottles and Jars ..	1	17	0	12	9	4
Cullett	4	17	0	2	8	6
Bones	1	17	3	10	17	1
Kitchen Waste ..	541	6	0	1,214	6	7
	1,139	11	2	£4,309	14	8

Bonuses and Allowances received :

Kitchen Waste	272	10	5
Waste Paper	40	10	5
	£4,622	15	6

The totals of salvage collected and income received from 1940 to 1949 were as under :

			Tons	Cwts.	Qtrs.	£	s.	d.
1940	..	..	938	1	0	2,485	4	9
1941	..	..	983	13	3	3,298	13	10
1942	..	..	1,281	7	2	5,313	11	9
1943	..	..	1,733	3	2	5,616	3	10
1944	..	..	1,587	14	0	4,619	12	1
1945	..	..	1,307	2	0	3,807	2	1
1946	..	..	1,430	6	0	4,750	16	4
1947	..	..	1,415	13	2	4,596	15	1
1948	..	..	1,383	16	1	4,894	0	2
1949	..	..	1,139	11	2	4,622	15	6
			13,200	9	0	£44,004	15	5

